GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Public Services — Forest Department – Disciplinary action against Sri K. Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly worked as Forest Range Officer DPAP, Ananthapur, on the allegations of irregularities committed in implementing the DRDA/DPAP Programme in Ananthapur District – Inquiry finalized and findings received – Imposition of penalty of 10% cut in pension for a period of two years, besides the recovery of Government loss of misappropriated funds of Rs.4,73,334/- against the retired Charged Officer – Show- Cause- Notice issued– Explanation received – Final orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 2 Dated: 18-01-2016

Read the following:

1.From the Prl.CCF, Lr.Rc.No.37104/1999/Vig-4, dt:24.10.2015.
2. G.M. No.10335/For.IV/A1/2010, dt. 26.12.2015.
3. From the PCCF Lr. Rc. No.37104/1999/Vig-4, dt: 04.01.2016,together with the explanation of Sri K. Eswaraiah,FRO(Retd).
4. Govt. Lr. No.10335/For.IV/A1/2010, dt. 05.01.2016.
5. From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr. No.53/DC&C/2/2016, dt. 13.01.2016.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad has informed that for committing certain irregularities, the Government in Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department called for explanation of Sri K. Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer formerly worked as Forest Range Officer DPAP, Ananthapur, vide Memo No.23533/RD.II/96-21/2, dated:29.6.1999. Subsequently, an Article of Charges was issued against Sri K. Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly worked as Forest Range Officer DPAP, Ananthapur, vide G.O.Rt.No.347, PR&RD (RD.II) Department, dt:22.03.2000, on the following counts:-

Article-1:- That the said Sri K.Eswaraiaih while functioning as Forest Range Officer, DPAP, Ananthapur is responsible for the total failure of Salkamcheruvu and Enumuladoddi Watersheds resulting in huge loss to the Agency.

Article-2:- That while functioning in the aforesaid office, the said Sri K.Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer has not ensured the proper distribution of seedlings of Citrus, Mango, Lemon, Usirika, Guava, Coconut, Sapota and Sitaphal purchased for Rs.2,21,334/- in Enumuladoddi Watershed area.

Article-3:- That while functioning in the aforesaid office, the said Sri K.Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer has misappropriated an amount of Rs.2.52 lakhs without distributing 20 tons of Hemata seeds to the villagers of Enumuladoddi.

2. The Government, vide G.O.Rt.No.554, EFS&T (For.IV) Department, dated:12.12.2011, appointed Sri K.Pradeep Chandra, IAS, Commissioner of Inquiries, General Administration Department as Inquiry Authority in place of Sri Janak Raj, IPS (Retired).

3. The Inquiry Report was received from the Commissioner of Inquiries vide D.O. Lr. No. 208/COI.P/2012, dt.28.08.2015 and the same was communicated to the PCCF vide G.M. No. 10335/For.IV/A1/2010, dt. 10.09.2015 with a request to communicate the Inquiry Report to the Charged Officers concerned and examine the further defense submitted by the Charged Officers and take a provisional decision on the penalties to be imposed on the Charged Officers and then send the proposals to Government for further action. The charges 1, 2 and 3 framed against Charged Officer-1 Sri K. Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) held proved and the Findings of the Inquiry Officer were communicated to Charged Officer vide Prl.CCF, letter dt.14.09.2015 and called for the Further defense.

4. The Charged Officer submitted in his further defense statement dt.18.10.2015 to the findings that he had already submitted his preliminary defense statements and reiterated those points and stated that same was explained in his previous explanations in detailed will holds good.

5. The Charged Officer retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.06.2004. Hence, the disciplinary proceedings are continued under Rule 9(1) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. After careful examination of the matter, with reference to the findings of the Inquiry Officer, the remarks of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, and material made available, it is observed that the charges framed against the Charged Officer are held proved and it was provisionally decided to impose a penalty of 10% cut in pension for a period of two years besides recovery of Government loss of misappropriated funds of Rs.4,73,334/- from the pensionary benefits of Sri K. Eswaraiah, Forest Range Officer (Retd) formerly worked as Forest Range Officer, DPAP, Ananthapur, under rule 9 (1) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. Accordingly a Show-Cause-Notice was issued to the retired officer vide reference 2nd read above. The Retired Officer has submitted his explanation to the Show-Cause-Notice through the reference 3rd read above wherein he has not put forth any new points.

8. Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose a penalty of 10% cut in pension for a period of two years besides recovery of Govt. loss of misappropriated funds of Rs.4,73,334/- from the pensionary benefits of Sri k. Eswaraiah, FRO(Retd) formerly worked as FRO, DPAP, Anathapur, under Rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad shall take necessary action accordingly

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

ASHWINI KUMAR PARIDA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
The Individual (through Principal Chief Conservator of Forests).

Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Hyderabad, A.P.
The Prl. Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Hyderabad
(with ref. to their Lr. No. 53/DC&C/2/2016, dt. 13.01.2016)

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER